



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 065691-0194

U. Douglas
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In re patent application of

M. PUECH

Group Art Unit: 3737

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Serial No. 09/581,515

Examiner: Ali M. Imam

Filed: July 27, 2000

For: USE OF AN ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER FOR ECHOGRAPHIC EXPLORATION
OF HUMAN OR ANIMAL BODY TISSUES OR ORGANS IN PARTICULAR OF
THE EYEBALL POSTERIOR SEGMENT

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a response to the Official Action mailed June 21, 2002 for the captioned application. If any additional extension(s) of time are required for the filing of this paper, applicant expressly petitions for such extension(s) and authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account 19-0741.

REMARKS

Rejections Under 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 13, 17-19, and 27-31 stand rejected under 35 USC §§ 102(b) and 102(e) as being anticipated by the Silverman reference ("Three-dimensional High frequency Ultrasonic Parameter Imaging of Anterior Segment pathology," Ophthalmology 1995 and US Patent No. 5,776,068, respectively). The Examiner contends that the Silverman references teach a method and device for ultrasound deep penetration. The Examiner also states that "penetrating tissue of 4-5 mm is considered deep enough with respect to the eye." (Office Action dated June 21, p.4). Finally, the Examiner states that the "focal length of 25 mm fall is considered falls [sic] within this range [a focal length of 25 mm] unless applicant can expressly provide that one can achieve unexpected results by using [sic] 25 mm focal length ultrasound transducer." Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.